

Torrance, California  
February 13, 1946

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Wednesday, February 13, 1946 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held January 22, 1946, of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held January 29, 1946 and of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held January 30, 1946 be approved as written. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication, signed by fourteen citizens, was read, protesting the granting of the request of Ora and Vera Gray to rezone the property situated south of Pacific Coast Highway, east of Ocean Avenue, and adjacent to the new City Park in WALTERIA, and presenting reasons for said protest.

Engineer Jain advised verbally that a communication relative to this subject from the Planning Commission has been written and will be read at this meeting.

A communication from the WALTERIA Civic Organization, relative to the same subject, was read, also protesting the rezoning of the property from A-1 to C-2 zone on the grounds that any type of business could then be operated there, and, since the property is adjacent to the new WALTERIA city park, it was stated that certain unsuitable and undesirable businesses, if established, could ruin the park and also hamper expansion of the park. It was urged that the City endeavor to purchase this land for use as an addition to the WALTERIA Park before certain undesirable conditions materialize.

A second letter from the WALTERIA Civic Organization was read, also protesting the rezoning of the property, and designating it as the land on the South side of Pacific Coast Highway between Ocean Avenue and a point 314 feet easterly therefrom, and lying southerly along the easterly side of Ocean Avenue, a distance of 187 feet.

The above three communications were ordered held in abeyance until the letter from the Planning Commission relative to the subject of rezoning the property is read.

A communication was read from Clarence Kerns, 3714 Spencer Street, requesting the City to furnish approximately 75 feet of 3" galvanized iron pipe and an approved fire hydrant to be used in the extension of the water line between Lots 31 and 32, Tract No. 3458, in West Torrance, as a means of providing additional fire protection for seven residences.

Clerk Bartlett advised that the district is served by the Dominguez Water Company, and, therefore, the City of Torrance has no jurisdiction there. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, advising that for the twelve months preceding February 1, 1946, under the provisions of Franchise Ordinance No. 127, no receipts or earnings were derived by the company from the use and ownership of said pipe line, for the construction and operation of which said franchise is granted. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the General Petroleum Corporation of California, advising that, during the six months' period ending December 31, 1945, no pipe lines were laid under the terms of Ordinance No. 781 N.S. of the County of Los Angeles. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, advising that, during the period July 1, 1945 to and including December 31, 1945, no permits were issued and no pipe lines were laid or removed under terms of Los Angeles County Ordinance No. 1014 within the City of Torrance. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Tide Water Associated Oil Company, Associated Division, advising that, during the period July 1, 1945 to and including December 31, 1945, no permits were issued and no pipe lines were laid or removed under the terms of Los Angeles County Ordinance No. 1351 within the City of Torrance. Matter of record.

A communication was read from the WALTERIA Civic Organization, thanking the City Council, the City Engineer and the Street Department for the fine work performed in resurfacing Neece Avenue in WALTERIA.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Department of the County Public Library, enclosing two copies of the bill for County Library service to the City of Torrance for the six months' period July 1 to December 31, 1945.

It was requested that, in accordance with the usual procedure, the City Council give an expression at this time as to whether or not the City desires to renew the contract with the County for library services for the fiscal year 1946-47.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be authorized to notify the County of Los Angeles, Department of County Public Library, that it is the desire of the City of Torrance to renew the contract with the County for library services for the fiscal year July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947 inclusive. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Jack Abramson, requesting permission to erect, for the purpose of displaying merchandise, a wire enclosure, approximately 15 feet by 25 feet, on the northwest corner of Torrance Boulevard and Cravens Avenue. It was further advised that the enclosure would be from 10 to 12 feet from any sidewalk, and from 10 to 12 feet from the nearest building. The building referred to, it was stated, is located at 2113 Torrance Boulevard, and is known as Burke's Bargain Spot.

Clerk Bartlett added that Mr. Abramson had contacted him and advised that it is his desire to have the fence above referred to for the purpose of displaying outdoor summer furniture, and would be on a temporary basis.

The question arose as to whether or not this should be referred to the Planning Commission. Engineer Jain advised that he personally has no objection and added that, although the Planning Commission requires all merchandise to be housed, he felt the regulation specifically refers to businesses such as junk yards, reasons being obvious, and not especially to this type of business. However, he said, from a technical standpoint, the Planning Commission would probably disapprove because of this regulation, but again added that he, personally, could see no objection to allowing the fence.

After some further discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the Planning Commission for recommendation. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Planning Commission, signed by Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Secretary of the Planning Commission, advising that the Planning Commission, after considering all the evidence submitted, and hearing oral and written communications in regard to the Petition for Change of Zone of Orrie and

Mary M. Gray (Case No. 28) requesting rezoning of the property south of Pacific Coast Highway, between Ocean Avenue and a point 314 feet easterly therefrom, and lying southerly along the easterly side of Ocean Avenue, from A-1 to C-2 zones, the Commission had unanimously recommended that the Petition for Change of Zone be rejected. Mr. Jain stated that the Commission had further recommended that all uses of property along Pacific Coast Highway, not now permitted by Land Use Ordinance No. 316, be handled by variance in order that controls can be maintained as to appearances and types of use along this major thoroughfare.

It was advised that it is necessary for the City Council to set a date for, and hold, a third public hearing, after which the City Council may accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission, or amend or reject it by a four-fifths vote, after which it must be returned to the Planning Commission for reconsideration, together with the findings of the City Council.

Engineer Jain suggested that a date be set at this time in order that the proper notices may be published and mailed out.

Councilman Powell moved that the public hearing referred to by Engineer Jain for Case No. 28 be set for March 5, 1946 at 8:00 P.M. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, Torrance City Planning Commission, advising that the Planning Commission has approved the following cases, both Petitions for Variance from Land Use Ordinance No. 316, to the full extent as requested:

1. Case No. 26. Petition of Elias T. Martin and William H. Bates to permit the use of the present buildings located on Lots 23 to 28 inclusive, Block 5, Walteria Tract, as a feed store, nursery and gasoline service station; also the construction of a 20' by 40' stucco storage building.

2. Case No. 31. Petition of O. W. Moorman for a Variance and Conditional Permit for the construction of a building on Lot 9, Block 1, Tract 5719, to be occupied as a Beauty Shop.

It was recommended that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission in approving the above two petitions for Variance from Land Use Ordinance No. 316. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, calling attention to a problem which confronts his office day after day; namely, requests for permission to move in houses, which houses, in many cases, do not meet the requirements of the Uniform Building Code, in that most of them were constructed before building regulations were established in the cities from which they come.

Engineer Jain advised that the Building Code does not give him or his department authority to approve any construction less than that set up in the Building Code. He advised that other cities are handling this matter either by submission to the Planning Commission for recommendation, or by appointment of a special committee by the Council or Mayor to investigate and recommend on such matters.

He asked that the Council immediately take steps to appoint a committee of one or more members, to pass on moved-in buildings, based on the investigation, but not on the recommendation, of the Building Department.

He further stated that, since the Planning Commission holds meetings monthly, that Board could not efficiently serve the purpose, as buildings are ordinarily sold within one or two days from the date of advertising, which would not allow a prospective owner sufficient time to secure approval.

A discussion ensued, during which Councilman Cucci expressed the opinion that there should be no necessity for a committee, as, he said, a building either meets, or fails to meet, the standard set up by the Building Code, and that fact alone should determine whether or not it should be allowed to be moved in. He said a high standard had been maintained in the City of Torrance even during the war crisis, and that he would favor continuing to maintain that high standard.

Councilman Powell said that, in cases where the buildings can be made, with very little effort and material, to conform to the Building regulations, he would favor allowing them to be moved in.

Engineer Jain urged that something be done to assist him in this problem, as, he pointed out, he is fully aware of the seriousness of the housing shortage and does not want to assume full responsibility for either allowing or refusing requests in so vital a matter, and one which is so extremely important to the person or persons who desire to move in houses. However, he said, whichever course is followed, criticism will result, as those persons who are building new houses and are compelled to comply with the Building Code will naturally resent having a house moved in which does not comply, while those whose requests for permission to move in sub-standard houses are refused will feel they are being discriminated against in their efforts to obtain housing for themselves and their families.

Councilman Cucci said that the Council has never criticized Mr. Jain for any decisions he may have made in these matters, adding again that, even though Mr. Jain is reluctant to assume full responsibility, he is actually the only one qualified to know whether the buildings are up to the proper standard or not.

Councilman Hitchcock said he could readily understand Mr. Jain's reasons for desiring a committee to rule on these requests, stating that the problem is one which is puzzling many cities at this time.

After some further discussion, it was decided that Mr. Jain should, in all requests which are received in the future, and upon which Mr. Jain may wish the opinion of others as to whether or not a house should be allowed to be moved in, contact two or more Councilmen, whoever is available, and have them make an investigation with Mr. Jain and offer recommendations.

Engineer Jain suggested that, any time a house is moved in in this manner, the full Council confirm the action at the following meeting of the Council.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Secretary of the City Planning Commission, advising that the Commission has held two public hearings as required by law, on the Petition for Change of Zone of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company (Case No. 30) wherein they request that the strip of land 150 feet in depth, along the south side of Carson Street, between Crenshaw Boulevard and Oak Avenue, now zoned R-3 and C-1, be re-zoned to M-2 (heavy manufacturing).

It was advised that the Commission, after careful consideration of all the facts presented at the hearings, recommends to the City Council that the Petition for Change of Zone be denied, and that a variance be granted to the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company to permit the International Derrick and Equipment Company to extend their machine shop and construct a parking lot and hedge, all as, and only as shown on the International Derrick and Equipment Company Lay-out Plan No. 5-T-10-C-7, Sheet No. 18, dated November 9, 1945; and further recommends the closing and vacation of Oak Avenue, between Carson Street and Jefferson Street, subject to the opening and dedication, by the Santa Fe Railway Company, of Jefferson Street northeasterly to Plaza del Amo, or the opening and dedication of Vine Avenue, either northerly to Plaza del Amo, or northeasterly to Plaza del Amo, to provide access to this industrial property, which will be destroyed by the closing of Oak Avenue.

Engineer Jain advised that it will be necessary for the City Council to set a date for a third public hearing in connection with this matter.

Councilman Cucci moved that the third public hearing in connection with the Petition for Change of Zone of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company (Case No. 30) be held March 5, 1946. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Secretary of the City Planning Commission, submitting a list of thirty-one proposed amendments to Land Use Ordinance No. 316, and recommending that the amendments be approved by the City Council. It was stated that it will be necessary for the City Council to set a date for, and hold a public hearing upon these amendments.



Councilman Cucci moved that hearing upon the thirty-one proposed amendments to Land Use Ordinance No. 316 as submitted by the Planning Commission be held March 5, 1946. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, in the form of a resolution, requesting the City Council to defer action on any recommendations which might be made to the City Council relative to alley set-backs in C-1 and C-2 zones until such time as the recommendations are made known and the property owners afforded an opportunity of studying same. It was stated that the decisions had been reached by the Planning Commission in a closed session, and that it was believed a recommendation would be made that the City Council approve same.

The communication was signed by Mr. Charles V. Jones, Chairman, Community Planning Committee, and, since he was present, he was asked whether or not March 5, 1946 will be a suitable date for discussing the matter, since that date is the regular meeting date of the Planning Commission, and the date which has been scheduled for a number of public hearings as requested by the Commission. Mr. Jones advised that the date mentioned will be entirely satisfactory to him.

A communication was read from Taylor and Taylor, Engineers, 725 South Spring Street, replying to a request of Engineer Jain relative to a water survey of the Hollywood Riviera section of the City of Torrance, and offering to make the survey for \$600.00.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Taylor and Taylor, Engineers, be authorized to proceed to make a survey of the water needs of the Hollywood Riviera section of the City of Torrance. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from H. C. Smiley, M. D., District Health Officer, County of Los Angeles Health Department, Torrance Health Center, calling attention to a condition in Pueblo which Dr. Smiley said should receive immediate attention. He advised that a very grave and serious menace to the public health exists in the form of raw sewage which is flowing under the houses and on to the street. He advised that one owner in particular appears to have been endeavoring to purchase pipe with which to connect with the new sewer line, but, to date, has been unsuccessful in his attempts to obtain same.

Engineer Jain advised that, to date, no one in Pueblo has connected with the new 21" sewer line which was constructed in Pueblo. He said that, in connection with the pipe question, there is no specific type of pipe which must be used, except that it must be cast iron or clay pipe, and that, although the pipe is scarce, the City succeeds, by searching around, to find enough pipe to answer its needs.

Councilman Powell censured the Health Department for presenting the matter of this undesirable condition to the Council in this manner, stating that he and others had tried over and over to get this condition remedied, and added that he felt the responsibility rests with the Health Department.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the City endeavor to help the people locate suitable pipe in order that they may hook on to the sewer line, but, in so doing, he added, will in no manner imply that the City of Torrance is responsible for the condition.

Councilman Powell said he would be willing to assist the people in any way possible, but said he felt Dr. Smiley had endeavored to "pass the buck" by handling this matter in this manner. He said if there are any sanitary regulations which are being violated, it is the responsibility of the Health Department to take steps to remedy the condition.

Councilman Cucci suggested that the Health Department should be informed that there is no regulation on type of pipe which can be used, except that it must be either clay or cast iron, so he can so inform those people who claim that a certain kind of pipe must be obtained before they can connect to the sewer, and hasten the procedure somewhat.

Clerk Bartlett said he thought it was in order for the Health Department to notify the City Council of these conditions, and the City Council should, in turn, authorize the Health Department to take whatever steps are necessary to correct the condition and abate the nuisance.

Councilman Gilbert said there is no unsurmountable obstacle in obtaining pipe if the people go through the regular channels of an authorized plumbing shop to obtain same.

Councilman Cucci moved that the County of Los Angeles Health Department Inspector be authorized to take whatever steps, or resort to any measures, as are necessary to correct the condition in Pueblo mentioned in their communication of February 13, 1946, namely, the condition of raw sewage flowing under the houses and on to the street. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Chester Kohler, Sr., 24401 Park Street, WALTERIA, advising that a petition had been submitted to the Council some time ago requesting the City to deed the abandoned portion of 244th Street, upon which petition there has been no action to date, and again requesting a deed to the property.

A short discussion ensued, Attorney McCall stating that the matter is one of the many in his "unfinished business" file which he has been unable to complete due to lack of office space and a stenographer. He said he hoped to dispose of all these matters when the office now being arranged is finished and he has the services of a stenographer. He said the City had not vacated the street as yet.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Kohler be advised that, until the City takes further action to vacate the property referred to, nothing can be done toward granting a deed, and that he will be properly notified when vacation proceedings have been completed. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Director of Public Works, submitting cost estimates for the construction of a sidewalk, curbs and gutters on Neece Avenue, between Newton Street and Pacific Coast Highway, total cost estimate being \$15,019.75.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that a copy of this letter be forwarded to the WALTERIA civic organizations. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the U. S. Naval Base, Terminal Island (San Pedro), California, signed by Captain L. G. Lloyd, U.S.N.R., requesting the Attorney for the City of Torrance to prepare a suitable agreement to permit Navy fire engines to connect with fire hydrants of the City of Torrance and to use water therefrom for emergency purposes on the property on which is located the Navy Material Redistribution Center in the City of Torrance. It was further requested that the City grant permission to the Navy to replace certain obsolete and unsuitable fire hydrants located within the boundary of land acquired by the Navy for the Navy Material Redistribution Center with hydrants comparable to those in use elsewhere in the City of Torrance. It was also further requested that permission be granted to the Navy to install four new hydrants along Jefferson Street, on Navy property, connected to the water main on the south side of Jefferson Street.

Councilman Powell moved that the requests be granted.

A short discussion ensued, after which Councilman Powell withdrew his motion and moved that the requests above be referred to the City Engineer and City Attorney for investigation and report. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication, bearing fifteen signatures, was read, protesting against permitting the wooden structure moved upon Lot 1, Block 36, Torrance Tract, to remain upon said property, and protesting vigorously against the issuance of a permit to Max Pine or any other person to conduct any kind of soap manufacturing business upon said property or in the area.

Certain provisions of Subdivision 2 of the Eighth Section of the Declaration of the Dominguez Land Corporation, relating to this and other properties in Torrance, were cited, one being a restriction against the erection or maintenance of any establishment for the making and preparing of soap.

Engineer Jain advised that the area is zoned for light manufacturing, and that a building permit had been granted, since there was no basis upon which to refuse to do so. He said no city ordinances have been violated in so doing, and added that he understands the actual manufacture of the soap product will not be carried on at that address, but that, instead, the ingredients are trucked in and simply mixed and packaged there and shipped out. He said he had understood that there is no wet process, fumes or odors, and that, in any event, the City has no authority to refuse to allow light manufacturing in an area properly zoned for same.

In connection with the restrictions named in the Dominguez Land Corporation Declaration, he said the City is not formally obligated to enforce terms of various deeds and declarations naming uses of properties, and especially is this so, he said, in the many cases where the deeds or declarations were drawn up prior to incorporation of the City. The restrictions phase of the matter, he said, is a concern of the people themselves, but the City can only be governed by existing ordinances.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the communication bearing fifteen signatures be filed for future reference. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Freeley, who was in the audience, requested that the information given by Mr. Jain be repeated, to which Attorney McCall replied that, in connection with the restrictions named, if an action is to be started, it must be instigated by the person or persons whose rights have been infringed upon against the person or persons who assertedly did the infringing.

Mr. Frank Schmidt, one of the signers of the communication, addressed the Council relative to the same subject, objecting to the manufacture of soap in the area. Mayor Tolson pointed out that the area is zoned for light manufacturing, and that the City had merely complied with existing ordinances in issuing a building permit. Engineer Jain added that unless a public nuisance is created, the City cannot do anything about it. Attorney McCall stated that the City cannot enforce deed restrictions.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 366

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, REGULATING THE OPERATION OF TAXICABS AND MOTOR VEHICLES TRANSPORTING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE, UPON THE PUBLIC STREETS OF SAID CITY.

Councilman Cucci moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 366 be dispensed with. Councilman Gilbert, after receiving an affirmative answer from Attorney McCall to his (Councilman Gilbert's) question as to whether or not all the changes in the proposed ordinance agreed upon at a recent meeting between the City Council and taxicab operators had been made in the ordinance now presented, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Cucci moved that Ordinance No. 366 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1764

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY  
CLERK TO RECORD ORDINANCE NO. 356 IN  
THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF  
THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1764 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1765

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ACCOUNTING  
TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR CERTAIN  
SALES MADE PURSUANT TO AN EXISTING AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE SAID CITY AND THE SAID COUNTY.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1765 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of \$87.50, plus tax, be made for five steel lockers, Government surplus property, for the Fire Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell reported that the following men have returned to their various positions with the Fire Department, all having been on Military leave of absence: Ivan Kettering, returned November 1, 1945 to #2 Station; E. K. Walker, returned October 8, 1945 to #1 Station; N. T. Whitney, returned October 16, 1945 to #1 Station, and W. R. West, returned February 1, 1946 to #1 Station. Matter of record.

Councilman Powell reported that Adrian Thornberry, who has been on Military leave of absence, has returned to his position with the Police Department as of February 11, 1946. Matter of record.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Chief Stroh, in which it was the recommendation of the Chief that the City pass an ordinance to register bicycles in the City of Torrance, stating that this is an effort to control theft of bicycles, and stating that various surrounding cities which license bicycles seem to have reasonable control of thefts. He suggested that the ordinance be prepared and made ready to take effect July 1, 1946.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draft an ordinance to license bicycles in the City of Torrance as recommended by Chief Stroh. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Cucci moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$150.00 be made for plasterer's time repairing the exterior walls of the City Hall. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to construct the macadam pavement to serve the proposed sub-



division of Lot 10, Tract No. 6223. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the following work be done by the City in Tract No. 13822, South of the Pacific Electric Shops, for Mr. Jack Pine: (1) Construct curbs and gutters (2) Construct rock and oil paving (3) Re-arrange and re-locate water lines now existing, to serve this area (4) Furnish all engineering and inspection on curbs, gutters and streets. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Gerald Enfield, who is being released as an emergency police officer, be employed as a temporary painter until a Civil Service Examination for the position of painter is held. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$189.75, plus tax, be made to cover the purchase of red lantern globes and 3 dozen shovels for the Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$66.96, plus tax, be made for the purchase of grader blades complete for the Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$76.50, plus tax, be made for 1000 gallons bitumuls, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$71.75 be made for purchase of a drill, Government surplus property, for the City Garage, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$1040.00 plus tax, be made for 800 tons decomposed granite, to be used on North Arlington Avenue between 166th Street and 174th Street. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$1046.83 plus tax, be made for 805.25 tons decomposed granite, to be used on Arlington Avenue, between 174th Street and 182nd Street. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$75.85, including tax, be made for purchase of one King Post for repairs to Austin-Western Road Roller, Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following

roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to rent the necessary construction equipment to use on street and alley grading and resurfacing. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Herman Pickett be authorized to travel to Port Hueneme to inspect trucks which are being offered for sale as Government surplus property, with the view of selecting two for the Street Department and one for the Park Department, and to report his findings to the City Council. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion.

Engineer Jain interrupted before a vote was taken to point out that this equipment will be offered to cities on a specific date, and that, at that time, the transaction will have to be completed if the City is to get the advantage of purchasing the trucks. He said they represent exceptionally fine values, as some of the trucks have as little as 1000 miles registered on them, and are very reasonably priced. He added that some of the City equipment which these trucks will replace is in extremely poor condition.

Councilmen Hitchcock and Gilbert withdrew their motion and second, respectively, and Councilman Hitchcock then moved that the City Engineer be authorized to enter into the necessary agreement to purchase two trucks for the Street Department and one truck for the Park Department from the Government Surplus Equipment located at Port Hueneme, at a price of not to exceed \$1810.00 each. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Herman Pickett be authorized to travel to Port Hueneme to inspect trucks being offered for sale as Government Surplus Property on the date set for offering the equipment to cities with the view of recommending purchase of two trucks for the Street Department and one truck for the Park Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$90.00, plus tax and freight, be made for purchase of culvert pipe for Cabrillo Avenue and Santa Fe Avenue. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock asked Engineer Jain to explain the condition the City finds itself in in connection with certain Street Department equipment, namely, the loader.

Engineer Jain reported that the loader is completely out of use now, and will require repairs costing \$2200.00 to place it in workable condition, whereas a new loader, which will be available in approximately thirty days, can be purchased for \$3450.00, and the old one can be sold for something like \$1200.00 in it's present condition. He recommended purchase of the new one as an economical step.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Engineer Jain be authorized to advertise for bids for sale of the old loader owned by the City of Torrance, and, when sold, to enter into an agreement to purchase a new loader at a price of not to exceed \$3450.00. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert asked Attorney McCall whether or not he had received any late news relative to the City's offer to purchase certain land adjacent to the Fern Avenue School, known as the Fern Avenue Annex, from the Los Angeles City Board of Education. Attorney McCall replied that he had been informed a meeting of the School authorities is scheduled for this evening, at which time the matter will undoubtedly be discussed.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$255.00, plus tax, be made for purchase of one electric typewriter for the City Clerk's Office. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$400.00 be made for an actuary survey in connection with the State Retirement Plan. Councilman Cucci seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$88.47, including tax, be made for parts for stock for the Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$378.00, plus tax, be made for one cylinder head assembly for stock for the Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that Dean W. Gilbert be employed, on a temporary basis, at a salary of \$190.00 per month, as a Bus Department garage helper, effective February 11, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that Philip Blake be employed, on a temporary basis, at a salary of \$225.00 per month, as a Mechanic, Grade A, effective January 28, 1946, Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$128.00 be made for advertising the new bus schedule, Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$110.19, including tax, be made for placards, new schedules and office printing, Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$138.38, including tax, be made for the purchase of 5,000 10-ride commutation books, Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson advised that a request has been submitted by the Bus Department for authorization to purchase bus department shop equipment, and asked that an itemized list of the equipment proposed to be purchased be submitted to the Purchasing Agent, after which the authorization for the equipment can be made if advisable.

Attorney McCall advised that he had overlooked turning in his request for an electric typewriter for his office in the City Hall to Mr. Bartlett in time to have it placed on the program, and asked that the authorization be made at this time.

Mayor Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$255.00 be made for purchase of an electric typewriter for the City Attorney's Office. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$1,000.00 be made for partitioning the Court Room properly to provide an office for the City Attorney. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$300.00 be made for alterations in the City Engineer's Office. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mr. Arthur Taylor of the Engineering Firm of Taylor and Taylor was present in the assemblage, and, upon request of Councilman Powell that he outline the revised plan for formation of the proposed Water District in North Torrance referred to by Mr. Bartlett at the last meeting, he handed to Clerk Bartlett a copy of a letter his firm had prepared outlining the plan.

The plan as outlined offered various suggestions, one being that 160 acres of County Territory to the West of the proposed district, with an assessed valuation of \$40,000.00 be annexed; however, this was not offered as a specific recommendation, but only as one suggestion for raising sufficient funds, (the legal bonding capacity being 25 percent of the assessed valuation of land alone for a project of this kind) with which to construct a suitable water system to adequately serve the present and future needs of the community. It was stated that, if the 160 acres is not annexed, \$8000.00 would have to be raised by other means or the costs would have to be scaled down by smaller size pipe, or by omitting a line not now needed by a consumer.

A recommendation made heretofore by the Engineering Firm was repeated, i.e., that a strip 1/4-mile deep between Crenshaw and Hawthorne Boulevards be included in the District Boundary, but that no greater spread of boundary of the District to the South be contemplated on the grounds that it would invite legal contest prolonged and difficult to win.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of Taylor and Taylor in regard to the proposed formation of a water district in North Torrance be concurred in and that the boundaries within the City of Torrance be established in accordance with suggestions contained in the communication read above, and that the Council further accept the suggestion relative to proceeding with annexation of County property, with the understanding that A & I District No. 124, comprising approximately 95 acres, is to be excluded from the new water district. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Councilman Powell added that his purpose in making this motion is to get the proceedings started to provide the community of North Torrance with much needed water, rather than act contrary to the recommendation of the Engineers and invite legal controversy which, he continued, could possibly delay the entire matter for a period of years and cause the people to endure a continued period of no adequate water system.



Councilman Cucci objected to the motion, stating that the people cannot gain from it a clear understanding of what is being done for them so far as boundaries are concerned.

An exhaustive discussion ensued, various North Torrance people, the City Council, and Mr. Arthur Taylor of the engineering firm of Taylor and Taylor participating. It was the contention of the North Torrance people that all the property of the General Petroleum Corporation should be included in the proposed new water district, an opinion which has been expressed repeatedly in previous meetings. Councilman Cucci, who has also expressed this opinion at various meetings, agreed with the people, and stated that the system proposed now, with smaller pipe, will not be good enough to serve the needs of the people now and in the future. Mr. Taylor pointed out to Councilman Cucci and everyone else present that his firm, which is a reputable one, would not even remotely consider offering a suggestion or suggestions that an inadequate water system be installed anywhere. He said that this revised recommendation had been prepared in an effort to assist the people in getting the much needed water system, as it is well known that the need is great in the community, rather than following an unwise course of including in the district property of the General Petroleum Corporation at the risk of having the entire proceedings bog down in the throes of legal battle.

Councilman Cucci pointed out that, the fact that a motion has been made here tonight to establish the boundaries, does in no manner whatsoever mean that the people are compelled to accept same. He said that, when the petitions are circulated, this motion can be disregarded, insofar as boundaries are concerned.

The North Torrance people displayed bitter opposition to the general idea of establishing the boundaries to take in that property 1/4-mile deep south of 190th Street between Crenshaw and Hawthorne Boulevards and annexing certain County Territory, rather than including all the property of General Petroleum Corporation and omitting the idea of annexation of additional property.

After much heated discussion, a vote was taken on Councilman Powell's motion hereinabove set out, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Cucci. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The people again protested that this is not giving them what they want, and many severe remarks were made during the ensuing tirade.

Mr. Plomert of the General Petroleum Corporation reiterated remarks made previously to the effect that his corporation in no manner objects to the formation of a water district in North Torrance, and is, in fact, hopeful that the people will succeed in getting a good water system, but that his corporation does not feel justified in willfully entering into the district.

Mr. Gonner of North Torrance made an attack upon the engineering firm of Taylor and Taylor, stating that they apparently do not understand the requirements of agricultural land which must be irrigated. Mr. Taylor replied that he had been for many years an irrigation engineer, and is thoroughly familiar with the needs, and that it would be unthinkable for his firm to offer suggestions that a system, inadequate in size of pipe to properly serve the community, be constructed. He proceeded to recite the history of the North Torrance water situation, advising that surveys have been made several times since 1938, and that, therefore, his firm is in a position to know all the background in this case. He said the last suggestion made, i.e., the revised plan, is a concerted effort to furnish the people with a water system. However, he continued, if it is the desire of the people to delay the matter even further until P.W.A. or other Government funds are made available, it is immaterial to him, but, he said, the people will simply be, through their own actions, suffering the inconvenience they have been enduring for the past several years for an additional indefinite period.

The discussion was ended with Mr. Van Buren from North Torrance making an appeal for water on behalf of Veterans of World War #II who reside in North Torrance and are hopeful of getting started in agricultural pursuits and adjusted civilian lives.

When it appeared that the discussion was to be concluded, a number of the North Torrance people rose and began making their exit from the room preceding adjournment of the meeting.

Councilman Hitchcock moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gucci, Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 10:30 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bantel  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

**APPROVED:**

*W. H. T. Torrance*  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Memorandum      061440Z APR 68